

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A DNA construct comprising in operable linkage:
 - a single promoter sequence;
 - a first DNA molecule which has a length that is insufficient to independently impart resistance to a virus to plants transformed with said first DNA molecule, wherein the first DNA molecule is from a DNA encoding a plant viral coat protein and is at least 110 nucleotides in length;
 - a second DNA molecule, wherein the second DNA molecule is coupled to the first DNA molecule, wherein said second DNA molecule is at least 400 nucleotides in length, wherein the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule are ~~heterologous to each other and~~ collectively achieve post-transcriptional silencing of a plant viral coat protein and impart resistance to the virus to plants transformed with said DNA construct; and wherein the single promoter sequence effects transcription of the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule; and
 - a single termination sequence which ends transcription of ~~both~~ the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule.

2-11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The DNA construct according to claim 1, wherein the first DNA molecule is from a plant virus selected from the group consisting of tomato spotted wilt virus, impatiens necrotic spot virus, groundnut ringspot virus, potato virus Y, potato virus X, tobacco mosaic virus, turnip mosaic virus, tobacco etch virus, papaya ringspot virus, tomato mottle virus, and tomato yellow leaf curl virus.

13-15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) The DNA construct according to claim 1, wherein the second DNA molecule is selected from the group consisting of a viral cDNA

molecule, a ~~jellyfish-green~~ fluorescence protein encoding DNA molecule, and a combinations thereof.

17. (previously presented) The DNA construct according to claim 1, wherein the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule encode RNA molecules which are translatable.

18. (previously presented) The DNA construct according to claim 1, wherein the first DNA molecule and the second DNA molecule encode RNA molecules which are non-translatable.

19-22. (canceled)

23. (original) A DNA expression vector comprising the DNA construct of claim 1.

24-26. (canceled)

27. (original) A host cell transformed with the DNA construct of claim 1.

28-31. (canceled)

32. (original) A transgenic plant transformed with the DNA construct according to claim 1.

33-45. (canceled)

46. (currently amended) A method of increasing viral resistance to a plant comprising:

transforming a plant with a DNA construct according to claim 1 ~~under conditions effective to increase viral resistance to the plant resulting in a plant with increased resistance compared to an untransformed plant.~~

47-57. (canceled)

58. (previously presented) A transgenic plant seed comprising the DNA construct according to claim 1.

59-69. (canceled)

70. (previously presented) A method of increasing resistance to viral disease in a plant comprising:

planting a transgenic plant seed according to claim 58 and

propagating a plant from the transgenic plant seed resulting in a plant with increased resistance to viral disease compared to an untransformed plant.

71-94. (canceled)

95. (currently amended) A DNA construct comprising in operable linkage:

~~a fusion gene comprising:~~

~~a plurality of fragments of DNA molecules at least some of which are viral and have a length that is independently insufficient to impart a trait to plants transformed with that fragment of a DNA molecule, wherein at least some of the fragments of DNA molecules are at least 110 nucleotides in length but are less than a full length cDNA, said plurality of fragments of DNA molecules collectively are at least 510 nucleotides in length and impart a trait to plants transformed with said DNA construct and to effect silencing of the DNA construct;~~

~~a single promoter sequence which effects transcription of the a plurality of fragments of DNA molecules;~~

a plurality of DNA molecules each of which is at least 110 nucleotides in length and at least one of which is of a length insufficient to impart resistance to a plant virus to plants transformed therewith and is from a DNA encoding a plant virus coat protein, wherein the plurality of DNA molecules collectively are at least 510 nucleotides in length and wherein the plurality of DNA molecules effect post-transcriptional silencing of the plant virus

coat protein and impart resistance to the plant virus in plants transformed with the DNA construct; and

a single termination sequence which ends transcription of the plurality of fragments of DNA molecules.

96. (canceled)

97. (previously presented) A DNA expression vector comprising the DNA construct of claim 95.

98. (previously presented) A host cell transformed with the DNA construct of claim 95.

99. (previously presented) A transgenic plant transformed with the DNA construct of claim 95.

100. (canceled)

101. (currently amended) A method of increasing viral resistance to plants comprising:

transforming the plant with a DNA construct according to claim 95 resulting in a plant with increased resistance compared to an untransformed plant.

102. (previously presented) A transgenic plant seed comprising the DNA construct of claim 95.

103. (previously presented) A method of increasing viral resistance to plants comprising:

planting a transgenic plant seed according to claim 102 and propagating a plant from the transgenic plant seed.

104-105. (canceled)